

**County of Los Angeles – Department of Mental Health**  
**OFFICE OF THE MENTAL HEALTH COMMISSION**

Thursday, March 27, 2008

~ **Approved Minutes** ~

**Please note that these minutes a brief summary  
and not a word for word transcription of events at this meeting.**

**Jerry Lubin, Chair, Presiding**

**I. Call to Order – Jerry Lubin**

The presiding Chair called the meeting to order.

**II. Roll Call – Terry Lewis-Nwachie**

Attendance recorded:

- Absent Excused: Howard Askins, Hayward McNeill, George Caballero, and Barry Perrou
- Absent: Phillip Chen

**III. Approval of the Minutes – Jerry Lubin**

January 24, 2008 meeting minutes approved.

**IV. Executive Staff Reports**

**Jerry Lubin, Chair** – Reported on the following:

**CA Planning Council** – The California Planning Council extended an initiation to both Los Angeles and Orange County Commission chairs to present at the next planning meeting on April 17, 2008. The topic will be QIC information.

**MHSA Delegates Update** – Mr. Lubin updated the commission on the details of the Stakeholder meeting held March 25, 2008. The meeting purpose was to hear an update on WET planning process, IT and Capital Facilities plans, funding allocation structure of PEI, and circulate the final delegates meeting calendar for 2008.

**MHC/SAAC Chair's Meeting** – The SAAC needs assessment report, written by Gladys Lee, MHSA Planning Division, was discussed and reviewed. The process for information used to complete the assessment was discussed at the March 11 meeting. This is a compilation of all the information gathered from each SAAC.

**2008 Awards Program Update**– The awards program nomination forms has been disbursed. The deadline to submit nominations for outstanding consumer, family member, program, personal legacy is April 8, 2008.

**Connections for Life** – Vicky Sofro thanked staff for the dedicating time to organize the Connections for Life Conference planned April 2, 2008 at the Cathedral. Ms. Sofro encouraged all to attend the conference.

**V. Commissioner/Subcommittee Report - None**

**VI. Director's Report**

**Dr. Marvin J. Southard, DMH Director reported on the following**

**Budget** - Dr. Southard reported that the budget is reasonably better. DMH is very close to balancing the budget in spite of very small glitches with contractor programs.

**DMH Management Changes** – Dr. Southard announced effective April 1, the following changes to Executive Management staff will take place.

- Jim Allen will retire as Deputy Director – Debbie Innes-Gomberg will assume responsibility as Acting Director. Dr. Innes-Gomberg will oversee Service Area 7 and 8, and the CalWORKs program.
- Lucille Lyon, Acting Deputy Director, will assume responsibilities of the Office of the Public Guardian replacing Chris Fierro who retired in March 2008.
- Sandra Thomas, Deputy Director, will oversee Service Area 6, Transition Age Youth and Juvenile Justice.
- Kathleen Daly, MD, Director, Jail Mental Health Services will oversee Mental Health Court Program and Housing Development Division
- Olivia Celis-Karim, Deputy Director, Child, Youth and Family Program Administration will oversee Specialized Foster Care Division and continue to have responsibility for Service Area 3.
- Carlotta Childs-Seagle, Acting Deputy Director, Older Adult Program, will oversee Service Area 1 and continue responsibility for Service Areas 2 and 5.

**Dr. Rod Shaner, Medical Director**

**PEI** - Dr. Shaner reported that PEI continues to address the state guidelines that the PEI plan cover current age groups similar to the CSS and TAY and include issues such as trauma.

**Legislative Report – Susan Rajlal – submitted the following report (summary)**

1. A 5% cut in the State Maximum Allocable billing rate for Medi-Cal under the Rehab option for both children and adults
2. A 10% cut in the Managed Care rate of payment for Fee or service Medic-Cal providers.
3. Elimination of ht Community Residential Treatment Fees paid to Level 13 and 14 group homes for youth who receive intensive services.

The subcommittee did not vote to cut any of these programs and left the issues open for consideration until there is a report back from State DMH on April 28, 2008.

**VII. Presentations – Education and Employment Website**

Staff from the Homeless and Housing Division and Wellness Center programs presented a newly launched website available on the internet. The “Wellness and Client Run Center Wiki” contains information for clients, general public, staff and managers working with and in the WCRCs (Wellness and Client Run Centers). The presentation involved an interactive walk through selecting and discussing the information that can be assessed on the site. The site contains provider resources, links to disability benefits calculator, employment and education opportunities. The website is [www.wcrc.pbwiki.com](http://www.wcrc.pbwiki.com)

**VIII. SAAC and Community Reports**

**SAAC 2 – Roberta Burkenheim**, sent the following report because she was unable to attend the commission meeting:

On March 13, 2008, SAAC 2 meeting came to order. A segment of the meeting was spent on last meeting's discussion about cases brought by NAMI members to the service area. Results of the discussion revealed to be positive and negative issues in the service area. Dr. Ron Klein, DMH District Chief, is following up with the NAMI members in an effort to improve our service delivery.

Emma Oshaeny, MD, Pacific Clinics, presented on *Cultural Issues to be Aware of When Providing Services to Armenian Culture*.

The meeting was well attended by service providers, family of consumers, and consumers; over 90 in attendance an all time record. Attendance continues to increase since the MHSA.

**SAAC 6** – Commissioner Delores Huffman stated that she will be assisting with the activities of the monthly SAAC 6 meetings.

**IX. Public Comments – None**

**X. Next Meeting Information**

The next meeting of the Los Angeles County Mental Health Commission will be:

**Thursday, April 24, 2008**

**12 – 2:30 pm**

**Hahn Hall of Administration – Room 739**

**500 West Temple Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012**

Ch/ch